

Inner North Melbourne

(Melbourne, Yarra, Moonee Valley & Moreland)

Catchment

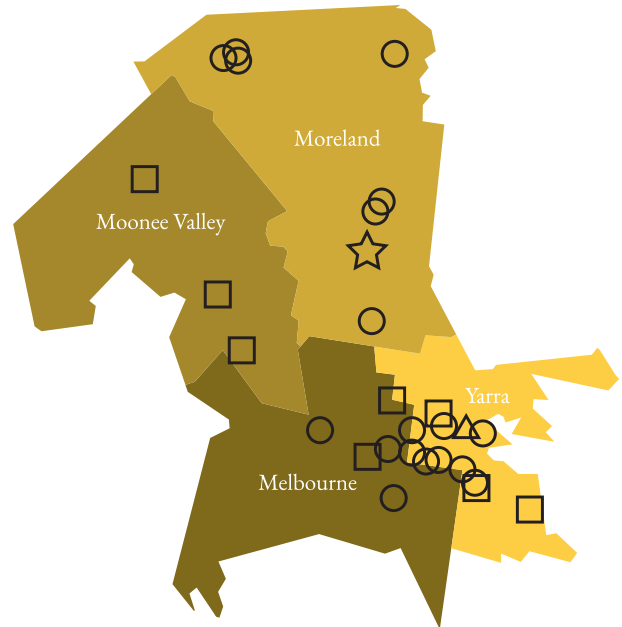
The Inner North catchment encompasses a large proportion of Melbourne’s nightlife precincts. The night-time and weekend economy, bars, pubs, clubs and the like all have an effect on demographics, the concentration of young people, and the associated alcohol and other substance use. Related to this point, ambulance attendance & emergency presentations and admissions statistics are based on the location of the incident or attendance, so we see significantly higher rates in these indicators in the Inner North catchment, particularly in the cities of Melbourne and Yarra. Homelessness, rough sleeping, street trading, public substance use, incidents during high-alcohol-hours (HAH) and younger cohorts are all associated with the Inner North Melbourne area. After substantial lobbying by AOD services, community and health services, police, politicians, the Medically Supervised Injecting Facility Pilot has been approved for Richmond. It will be up and running by mid-2018, attached to the North Richmond Community Health Centre. This is seen as a necessary response to the very high number of overdose deaths in the Richmond area, which has long been the centre of injecting drug use in Victoria.

Demographics

The Inner North Melbourne population stands out for its:

- Cultural diversity (37% born overseas)
- Number of new settler arrivals (especially in Melbourne)
- Significant gaming machine losses (Melbourne and Moonee Valley)
- High unemployment in Yarra (12th in the state)
- Proportion of social housing (very high across Melbourne, Yarra and Moonee Valley)
- Rate of offending across the Inner North catchment; very high in Yarra & Melbourne.
- High rates of alcohol and marijuana use by 15 – 17 year olds.
- Fewer Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people than the State average.

The attraction of people into the city, especially in evenings and weekends and the concentration of accommodation around the Universities explain some of these characteristics. In Melbourne and Yarra there is a much higher proportion of young adults (15 - 44 years); very high offending rates, consistently high scores in almost all indicators relating to alcohol and illicit drugs and high rates of people seeking help for mental health issues. Moreland stands out for mental health related measures with people reporting high levels of psychological distress and adolescents who report being recently bullied; it also has a comparatively high rate of registered mental health clients.



Inner North catchment & AOD

The data below shows the 5 most commonly reported primary drugs of concern for clients accessing adult services in the Inner North North catchment.

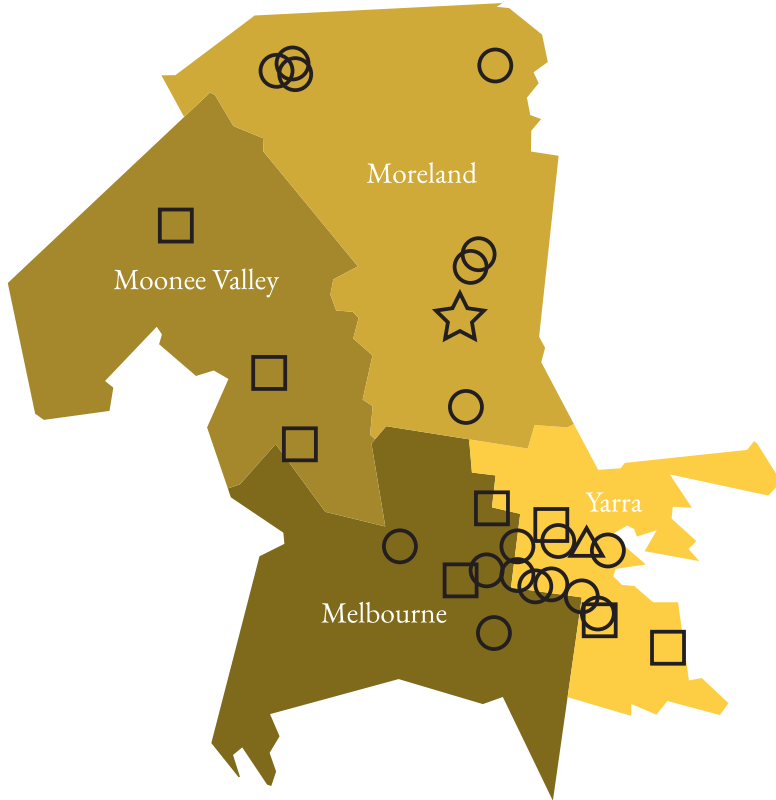
Substance	% of clients	Trend	2015/16
Alcohol	32.4%	↓	34.0%
Methamphetamine	28.4%	↓	28.8%
Cannabis & cannabinoids	13.1%	↓	14.4%
Heroin	11.4%	↑	10.6%
GHB	2.0%	↑	0.4%

When we look at the last 2 years of client data we can see that the proportion of clients presenting for help with Alcohol, Methamphetamine and Cannabis have all decreased slightly. Heroin has seen a small increase, but the most notable change is in GHB, it is now the 5th most commonly reported primary drug of concern, and the number of clients seeking treatment for this drug in the inner north has increased from 8 to 35.

Priorities

- **Cross sector collaboration:** Improve the interface between AOD, Mental Health, Homelessness and Justice services, acknowledge the extent our clients are shared, a focus on rebuilding collaborative practice capacity (such as co-case management and secondary consultations).
- **Consumer involvement in the system:** Improve and increase opportunities for meaningful consumer involvement in the service system – design, development and evaluation.
- **Assertive outreach:** Explore ways to further develop assertive outreach services. Consider if outreach should be thought of as an additional AOD treatment type (over and above care and recovery coordination), particularly in response to “special” populations of youth, homeless persons and mental health

Inner North Melbourne catchment



Has **25.5%** of the region's population.

Provided **4,004** episodes of treatment (↑ from 3,769)

That's **26%** of the region's total treatment episodes

Key

- ☆ Hub
- PHN
- State
- △ PHN & State

Hub

ReGen

26 Jessie Street, Coburg 3058

NWMAODSP service sites

Wingate Avenue CHC

13A Wingate Avenue, Ascot Vale 3032

Odyssey House Victoria

660 Bridge Road, Richmond 3121

North Richmond Community Health

23 Lennox St, Richmond 3121

Headspace

2A Hartington St, Glenroy 3046

Other state funded AOD services

Salvation Army (STAR)

268 Abbotsford Street, North Melbourne

Salvation Army

5/830 Pascoe Vale Road, Glenroy 3046

Cohealth Innerspace Drug Safety Services

4-6 Johnston Street

Cohealth

- 365 Hoddle Street, Collinwood
- 75 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy
- 53 Victoria Street, Melbourne
- 622 Lygon Street, Carlton
- 7 Chester Street, Moonee Ponds
- 3-15 Matthews Avenue, Niddrie

Victorian AIDS Council

175 Rose Street, Fitzroy